

REMARKS

At the time the present Office Action was mailed, claims 1-44 were pending. Claim 5 has been cancelled from the application. Claims 1 and 35 have been amended in accordance with an agreement reached between the Examiner and the undersigned attorney on October 31, 2001. Claims 4, 6, 9-18, 20-24, 30 and 35-44 have been amended to clarify certain features of these claims and/or to conform the claims to independent claims 1 and 35 as amended. Claims 25-29 and 31-34 have not been amended, accordingly, any rejection of these claims on new grounds should not be made final. New claims 45-47 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-4 and 6-47 are now pending in the present application.

In the Office Action mailed August 14, 2001, claims 1-44 were rejected. More specifically, the status of the application in light of this Office Action is as follows:

(A) Claims 9, 16, 25-34 and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph;

(B) Claims 1-4, 10-15, 21-24, 35, 36, 38, 41 and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,205,021-B1 to Klein et al. ("Klein");

(C) Claims 5-8 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klein in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,108,716 to Kimura et al. ("Kimura");

(D) Claims 39 and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klein in view of Kimura; and

(E) Claims 42 and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klein in view of Kimura.

Applicant's attorney wishes to thank the Examiner and his supervisor for engaging in a telephone conference on October 31, 2001. During that telephone conference, the present Office Action and proposed claim amendments were discussed. The Examiner and his supervisor agreed that (a) the Section 112, first paragraph rejections will be withdrawn and (b) the proposed claim amendments patentably distinguish claims 1 and 35 over the applied references.

A. Response to the Section 112 Rejections

Claims 9, 16, 25-34 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. In light of the agreement reached during the telephone conference on October 31, 2001, these Section 112 rejections will be withdrawn.

Claims 9, 16 and 37 as originally filed have been rewritten in independent form as new claims 45-47, respectively. The word "is" in the last line of original claim 9 has been amended to be "includes" in new claim 45. In light of the agreement reached during the telephone conference on October 31, 2001, these claims are allowable.

B. Response to the Section 102(e) Rejections

Claims 1-4, 10-15, 21-24, 35, 36, 38, 41 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Klein. Claims 1 and 35 have been amended in accordance with the Proposed Claim Amendment submitted for the October 31 telephone conference, and to correct a typographical error (in the last line of claim 1, "is" has been changed to "in"). In accordance with the agreement reached with the Examiner in the October 31, 2001 telephone conference, claims 1 and 35 are now patentable over the applied references. Claims 2-4 and 6-24 (which depend from claim 1) and claim 36-44 (which depend from claim 35) are patentable over the applied references for the reasons discussed above and the additional features of these claims.

C. Response to the Section 103(a) Rejections of Claims 5-8 and 17

Claims 5-8 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klein in view of Kimura. Claim 5 has been cancelled and accordingly the rejection of claim 5 is now moot. Claims 6-8 and 17 depend from claim 1. Accordingly, these claims are patentable over the applied references for the reasons discussed above and for the additional features of these claims.

D. Response to the Section 103(a) Rejections of Claims 39 and 40

Claims 39 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klein in view of Kimura. Claims 39 and 40 depend from claim 35. Accordingly, these claims are patentable over the applied references for the reasons discussed above and for the additional features of these claims.

E. Response to the Section 103(a) Rejections of Claims 42 and 44

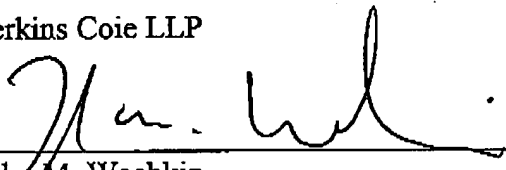
Claims 42 and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klein in view of Kimura. Claims 42 and 44 depend from claim 35. Accordingly, these claims are patentable over the applied references for the reasons discussed above and for the additional features of these claims.

F. Conclusion

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, requests reconsideration of the application and an allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner notices any informalities in the claims, he is also encouraged to contact John M. Wechkin to expediently correct any such informalities.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:

PTO-1083 (+ copy)

Appendix (Marked-up version of claims)

Authorization for Extensions of Time

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**Appendix – Claims
Marked to Show Changes**

1. (Amended) A portable personal computer, comprising:
a base having a controller for controlling operations thereof, said base having a
recess;

a display attached to said base; and

a removable wireless keyboardinput device for communicating with said
controller in said base through a signal interface when mounted into said base or through a
wireless connection when removed from said base, said keyboard having an upper surface, a
lower surface and at least one side surface with at least one of the lower surface and the at
least one side surface being received in said recess when said keyboard is mounted in said
base.

4. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~
~~base has a~~ recess is sized to receive both the lower surface and the at least one side
surface of ~~fit said removable wireless input device when said removable wireless~~
~~keyboardinput device is mounted into said base.~~

6. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim ~~5-1~~, wherein said
removable wireless keyboardinput device includes a pointing device.

9. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said
signal interface ~~is~~ includes a hardwired connection.

10. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said
signal interface ~~is~~ includes an infrared connection.

11. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said
signal interface ~~is~~ includes a radio frequency connection.

12. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboardinput device further includes an infrared transducer.

13. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboardinput device ~~has~~ includes at least one infrared device for at least transmitting infrared signals.

14. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboardinput device ~~has an upper surface and a lower surface, and~~ at least first, second, and third sides perpendicular to said upper and lower surfaces, and at least first and second infrared devices for at least transmitting infrared signals, said first and second infrared devices located on at least two of said first, second, and third sides of said removable wireless keyboardinput device.

15. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboardinput device includes a radio frequency transmitter and said base includes a radio frequency receiver.

16. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboardinput device has a first mating connector and said base has a second mating connector, wherein said first mating connector and said second mating connector provide a hardwired connection when said removable wireless keyboardinput device is mounted into said base.

17. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, wherein said removable wireless keyboardinput device has a power supply independent of said base.

18. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 17, wherein said power supply ~~is~~ includes an external alternating current power adapter.

20. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 19, wherein said at least one battery is charged by said base when said removable wireless keyboardinput device is mounted into said base.

21. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, further comprising at least one retaining device for securing said removable wireless keyboardinput device to said base.

22. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 21, wherein said at least one retaining device is includes a spring ball bearing.

23. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 22, wherein said at least one retaining device includes a tab and a slot, one of said tab and said slot located on one of said removable wireless keyboardinput device and said base and the other of said tab and said slot located on the other of said removable wireless keyboardinput device and said base, wherein said tab fits into said slot to secure said removable wireless keyboardinput device to said base.

24. (Amended) The portable personal computer of claim 1, further comprising an ejector mechanism for removing said removable wireless keyboardinput device when said removable wireless keyboardinput device is mounted in said base.

30. (Amended) The input device of claim 29, wherein said power supply is includes an external alternating current power adapter source.

35. (Amended) A method of controlling a portable computer with an input device a keyboard, said method comprising the acts of operating a controller within a base of said computer with an input device said keyboard while at least one of an upper surface and a side surface of said keyboard is received in a recess of said base, said keyboard which generatinges operational signals to said controller when disposed at least partially within connected with said base as well as when physically separated from said base.

36. (Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising ~~the act of~~ transmitting said operational signals as light signals to said base when said keyboardinput device is physically separated from said base.

37. (Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising ~~the act of~~ transmitting said operational signals to said base over a hardwired connection when said keyboardinput device is connected with said base.

38. (Amended) The method of claim 36, wherein said ~~act of~~ transmitting said operational signals as light signals is accomplished by transmitting infrared signals.

39. (Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising ~~the act of~~ supplying an independent power source to said keyboardinput device.

40. (Amended) The method of claim 39, further comprising ~~the act of~~ charging said independent power source when said keyboardinput device is connected with said base.

41. (Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising ~~the act of~~ physically connecting said keyboardinput device with said base.

42. (Amended) The method of claim 41, wherein ~~the act of~~ physically connecting said keyboardinput device with said base includes:

securing said keyboardinput device within said base; and

signaling said computer that said keyboardinput device is connected with said base.

43. (Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising ~~the act of~~ physically separating said keyboardinput device from said base.

44. (Amended) The method of claim 43, wherein ~~the act of~~ physically separating said keyboardinput device from said base includes:

removing said keyboardinput device from said base such that no physical connection remains; and

signaling said computer that said keyboardinput device is physically separated from said base.